

DECLARATION OF
the King of Navarre, tou-
ching the slanders published against
him in the protestations of those
of the league that are risen up
in armes in this Realme
of Fraunce.

Wth D^{ist}illedge.

Roberti Hare.

Truely translated into English according
to the French copie.

Printed at London, by Iohn
Charlewood, dwelling in Barbican at
the signe of the halfe Eagle and
the Key, 1585.

THE DE
OF

the Kingdom of
the United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Ireland
in the year 1801
the 1st day of January

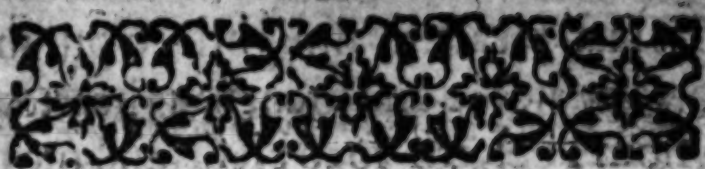


Printed at London by John
Gordon, in the Strand
and sold by the

LOò Rey & Prince Soubiran de
Bearn á permetut, & permet á
Loys Rabier Imprimador de son
Vniuersitat d'Ortès de imprimir,
bene, & exposar La declaratiõ que sa Maïestat
á enbiada au Rey de Francia, contre las calumnias
d'eus de la Ligua, ensems la lettraque ladieta Ma-
ïestat escriu audiēt Segnor Rey de Fràcia, com plus
plaa es contengut en las letras de priba-
legi ottrogeadas audiēt Loys Rabier
per ladieta Maïestat dadas á Bargerac,
loó xi. de Iuin 1585. Sageradas deu
grand saged deudiēt Seignor Rey &
Prince Soubiran, signadas de sa maá, &
cōtresignadas de Mazelieres, Raporta-
das au Conseil deudiēt Seignor Rey
per M^r. M^e. Ioan du Breuil Conseill-
er audiēt Conseil loó xiiij. deudiēt mes
de Iuin. 1585. A Pau.

The Abridgement in English of the
Kings Priuiledge, afore rehearsed
in the Bearnois tongue.

The King and Soueraigne Prince of
Beaine, hath permitted and doth per-
mit, Lewys Rabier, Printer of his
Uniuerſitie of Ortes, to imprint and
ſet forth, The declaration ſent by his Ma-
ieſtie, to the King of Fraunce, againſt the
ſlaunders of thoſe of the League, and alſo
the letter written by his Highneſſe to the
ſaid Lorde the King of Fraunce, as more
is conteyned in the Letters of priuilege,
granted by his Maieſtie to the ſaide Lewis
Rabier, dated at Bergerac the xi. of Iune
1585. Sealed with the great Seale of the
ſaid Lord the King and Soueraigne Prince:
Signed with his hande, and reſigned,
De Mazelieres, exhibited to the Counſell
of the ſaid Lord the King, by Maſter Du
Breuill, Counſellour in the ſame Counſell,
the xiiij. of the ſaid Moneth of Iune. 1585.
At Pau,



To the right wor-

shipfull, Sir Phillip Sidney,
KNIGHT.



I R, for as much as this Noble and most godly Christian King, by this declaratiō, desireth that all Christian Princes should vnderstād what great iniurie is offred to his honour, by th'enimies of the holy Church of God: I haue thought good to translate this good Prince his protestation into th'english tounge, & to present the same to your worships view: knowing that both you and all the worthie Englishe Knights touched with like godly zeale as your worship is, will, with the balance of a ripe and sound iudgement, cōsider & fauour th'equity of the cause,

as it shall please th'almightie to put in:
 to your noble and generous heartes:
 whom I beseech so to blesse and more
 and more enrich and augment those
 gites of grace, which hee hath so libe-
 rally bestowed on you, that it may re-
 dound to his honour and glorie, and to
 th'everlasting fame of your
 worship

Your worships most humble
 to commaund, Claudius
 Hollyband.



To the King.



Y^e soueraigne Lord, your
Maiestie shall well per-
ceiue, howe they that lately
rose up in this Realme, haue
bent themselves against me
in their protestations. And in the same
haue gone about by all manner of slan-
ders, to bring me in suspition with your
Maiesty, into hatred with all orders and
estates, and into the great misliking of all
Princes and nations of Christendome.

Therefore, my good Lord, I thought it
good to sende vnto your Maiestie, the de-
claration, written and signed with mine
owne hande, which shall be presented vnto
you by Mounſier Cleruaut, and De Cas-
ſincourt. The which I most humbly be-
seech your Ma. vouchsafe the reading
from point to poynt, and there to set be-
fore your eyes myne actions and deme-

A.iii.

hours

To the Kinge.

nowre passed, wherein I hold my selfe assured that the vpright and indifferent eye of your Maiestie, shall perceiue nothing but faithfulness and integrity. The which (my soueraigne Lorde) hath not beene either in causes or effects, more deeply or cleerlier seene by any other, then onely your Maiestie. And therefore, although my principall desyre aboue all thinge, bee to yeeld satisfaction to your Maiesties iudgement, which I doubt not but shalbe a verie easie matter for me to performe: yet neuertheles (my Lord) for that the poyson of these slanders is spred throughout all the vaines of this Realme, and of all Christendome (asmuch as in them lyeth) wherein my honor and reputation do suffer incredible damage: I am most humbly to beseech your Maiestie to shew me so much fauour, as to thinke well of my sending this present declaration, to all your Courtes of Parliament, and other the notable incorporat townes of this Realme, with whome most cheefely my aduersaries seeke to gayne and diffame me. And also that it
would

To the Kinge.

would please your maiestie to vouchsafe mee this honour, to commaund your Ambassadors to exhibite it to all Christian Princes your freends and allies, with those letters which (with your Maiesties licence) I purpose to write vnto them. And I am certainly perswaded, your Maiestie cannot but thinke it a thing most straunge (being so neere allied vnto you as I am, and with the mynd that I beare) that I passe in silence the great blames and slanderous reproofes wherewith they charge mine honor: which I dare say cannot be spotted without some damage to your Maiestie.

VVherfore in all humblenes and dutifull affection, I beseech your Maiestie to graunt these my requestes: And so referring the rest of my minde to the discharge of the sayde Mounſier de Cleruaux, and de Calsincourt, I most humbly beseech your Maiestie to giue credite vnto them.

Your most humble and
most obedient subiect
and seruaunt.

Henry.

The declaration of

the King of Nauarre, touching the
 slaunders published against him, in the
 protestations of them of the League,
 which are risen vp in this Realme.



HE King

of Nauarre, vpon the
 view and consideratiō of
 the protestations, and
 Declarations of those
 that this daye trouble the estate of this
 Kingdome, vnder the name of the holy
 League, wherein they would couer their
 wicked intent; partly with zeale of Reli-
 gion, & partly with affection and good will
 towards the common wealth: But par-
 ticularly take his Maiestie for the partie
 against whome they are bent, as though he
 were an Heretike, a Relaps, a Persecutor
 of the Church, a disturber of the estate, & a
 swozne enemy against the estate, &c. hath
 thought it, as appertaining to his dutye, to
 give cleare euidence and manifest declara-
 tion, to all Kinges, Princes, and Pratiors of
 Chriſten

Christendome, against these flanders; but
 specially to the King his soveraigne Lord,
 and to all manner of people, of what state
 or degree soever they bee, within this
 Realme, the rather, for that under his Ma-
 jesty, they make no conscience to attempt
 against the Crowne of their Prince, and
 bring a miserable confusion vpon his whole
 estate.

○ First therefore, touching the matter of
 Religion, the sayde Lord the king of Na-
 varre, protesteth before God (who seeth the
 bottome of his hart, before the King his so-
 veraigne Lord, vnto whome his principall
 desire is to approue his actions, before all
 the abovesayde Princes and Nations, to
 whose testimonie and iudgement hee wil-
 lingly yeldeth himselfe) that he hopeth not
 for any saluation, otherwise then in the
 Christian faith and Religiō, which hee em-
 braceth with all hartie affection, and for an
 infallible rule thereof, hee receaueth the
 word contained in the olde and new Testa-
 ment, which it hath pleased G O D to pre-
 serue in this darknes, for the light & dire-
 ction of his Church: that hee beleueth one
 Catholike and Apostolike Church, for the
 pre-

preservation & continuall endeuoring wher-
 of with all manner of graces, hee daily
 prayeth vnto to God, and would thinke
 himselfe most happie to shedde his blood in
 the defence thereof against the Infidelles:
 That he beleueth the Crædes or abidge-
 ments of the Christian faith, which haue
 bene set downe by the same Catholike and
 Apostlike Church, to serue as markes or
 cognisances, wherby the Christians and
 Rightbelouers may be discerned frō such
 as thinke amisse of the faith, and from he-
 retikes: And also hee embraceth the most
 auncient, famous, and lawfull Counsels,
 that haue bene holden against them. He
 reiecteth and detesteth with all his hart, all
 doctrines by them condemned, and for the
 reuerence he beareth to the Church, yea, &
 wilbe alwayes ready to yeld to her iudge-
 ment, and stand to her decreæ, when shee
 shalbe orderly assembled in a lawfull and
 holy counsell.

As touching the matter in controuersie,
 whereof in these dayes there is question in
 the church: The said Lord the King of Na-
 uarre desireth, that consideration may bee
 had, that hee is not the onely man, nor the
 first

first, that hath complained of the abuses
 brought into the church, and desired refoz-
 mation of the same: And therefore it should
 bee too harde, that this most true Christian
 desire, to see the Church reformed, should
 be imputed unto him as heresie, or enimi-
 tie against the same: In that for the space
 of fūe hundred yeares and aboue, it hath
 bene a common complaint of all Princes,
 of all learned men, and of all holy person-
 nages, that the Church through all this
 long tract of tyme, hath lost much of her
 first puritie and sinceritie, for shee being
 thus compounded of men, who without
 doubt, ever with theselues added & brought
 somewhat of their owne inuentions vnto
 her. So that it hath bene the voyce of all
 Councelles (without exception of any)
 which haue bene holden within the com-
 passe of the time aforesaid: that the Church
 had great neede of refoz mation, which in
 euery age hath bene long desired, yea, and
 vehemently sighed for, by all the best sort
 of men, out of whose mouthes this sen-
 tence would neuer else haue proceeded: so
 wisste, that whosoever should affirme the
 Church to haue neede of purging, ought to
 be

be taken for an heretike, and enemie of the
 same. That the most Christian Kings well
 perceiving the same, have often for the like
 effect thought it to appertaine to their of-
 fice, and toward the discharge of their con-
 sciences, to exhort the Pope and Christian
 Princes to a generall Councell, which in
 the Popes default, and in case hee winked
 at the matter, they could very well take
 vpon them to call together by their owne
 authoritie, from whence have proceeded vn-
 der their owne names, most laudable or-
 dynaunces, for the reformation of the
 french Church. So that, in the ende after
 long complaint of many ages, when they, to
 whome the matter seemed to appertaine,
 would not take in hande, but rather (as all
 men know) implored themselves in the af-
 faires of the worlde, it came to passe, that
 many Princes, Peoples, and estates, with
 great care weying and considering the rea-
 sons alledged vnto them, and seeing the
 defence and maintenaunce of the same, by
 the great constancie of infinite Parsons of
 all degrees, in most grievous torments, e-
 uen vnto the extremitie of death: did remit
 the said reformation to a lawfull Councell,
 and

and vpon refusall of the same, did protest against the abuses, which they pretended to be in the Church: and thereunto did laye their owne helping hande to redresse the same: from whence sprang the Schisme, which the saide Lord the King of Nauarre doth nowe bewaile to see in the Christian Church, and against the which it was not vnpossible in so long tyme to find remedie, if the honour of God, and the saluation of men had touched vs as nere, as our owne glorie or particular profit.

The sayd King of Nauarre, in regard of him selfe, saith, that he was not only borne during this unhappy Schisme, that thus hath happened in the Christian Church, (the continuance whereof, he iudgeth, ought to be imputed to such, as sought not means to rebuite the Church as they ought to haue done) but also that hee was brought vp in Fraunce, while th'exercise of both the Religions was permitted by the King, in the generall estates of his Realme, and after confirmed by many of his Priestlies Coides: besides, he was nourished and instructed in his tender years in this beliefe, that there were great abuses in the doctrine

time of the Romische Church, which had
 great neede of reformation: And after that
 hee was confirmed in the same, as well by
 the conference of many learned men, as al-
 so by reading the holy Scriptures: So that
 he beloneth in his hart, & fully testifieth
 with his mouth, that he is verily perswa-
 ded that the truth is on his side: Which
 hath bene an occasion of his falling, into
 very many dangers and losses, rather then
 to forsake the same. By which occasion al-
 so (to his great griefe) he neuer hadde the
 meane to do such seruices, neither to be
 partaker of the good grace & fauour of his
 soveraigne Lord and Prince, as otherwise
 without doubt, he might have done. If hee
 could (with a safe conscience) have framed
 himselfe to that profession, which his Ma-
 jestie followeth. Yet (notwithstanding)
 to give knowledge to all men, that what-
 soever hee hath done in that respect, was
 not of obstinacie, but of constancie, nei-
 ther by ambition, but for the onely desire
 of his salvation: hee most humbly besee-
 cheth his Maiestie, to cause a free and law-
 full countrell to be holden, according to the
 promises alwayes made by his edicts. The

said King of Nauarre, being alwayes ready to receiue instruction from the same, and to rule his beliefe according to that whiche there shalbe discided, concerning the controuerſies in religion.

As for the counsell of Trent, it is not to be obeyed. For although the continuance thereof was prosecuted by the late king Charles, and in the ende obteyned at the handes of Pope Paulus the thirde, and after the proclaiming thereof, Ambassadors were sent from his maiestie to the same counsell with Christian and Catholike instructions, agreeable to the holy decrees of the romish church, and approued by the Colledg, of Sorbonne, and the Doctors of the same, sent to the said counsell with the sayd Ambassadors: Yet notwithstanding all their diligence vsed toward the Cardinales, Legates, and prebendes in the saide Counsell, by the space of eightene Monethes and aboue, it was not possible to obteyne any thing conformable to the saide instructions, nor to reſorme the ecclesiasticall order according to the same. When his maiestie was aduertised thereof, and well perceiuing the harmes that might growe thereby: he gaue commaundement to

to his Ambassadors, to protest agaynst the
 sayd Counsell, and after their protestation
 made, to come home from thence, and so they
 did accordingly. And albeit great suite and
 intreatie was made vnto them, by the Pope
 and the sayd Cardinales, and the deceased
 Cardinall of Loraine, to returne to the said
 counsell, and stay there tyll the ende of the
 same: yet they would neuer yeeld so to doe.
 So that the same counsell was continued,
 ended, and concluded without them, & with-
 out their signet, according to the custome of
 all times. Wherby also it came to passe,
 that for any instant pursuit that was made,
 for the receyving and publishyng of the
 same counsell, in the Court of Parliament
 at Paris, the said Court, the Chambers be-
 ing assembled, hath alwaies withstode it,
 and that in the yeere threescore and twelue,
 after Bartholme weday, when the same se-
 med greatly to fauour their suite.

Therefore the said King of Nauarre think-
 eth, that men of byright iudgement, cannot
 accompt him either an heretique or an ob-
 stinate person, considering the matter is yet
 vndiscided and in respect he submitteth him
 selfe to the triall of a counsell, neither can

As it

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they iudge him contentious or vniust, that will yeelde to the decree of a Parliament, whatsoeuer the advocate or counseller on the one partie can cauill to the contrarie, ne yet deeme him for a schismaticke or sub-bourne offender, seeing he yeeldeth this obedience and reuerence to the assemblie of the estates, to be redy to make his appearaunce there both to yeelde a reason of his oppinion there, and likewise to learne there, yea and to chaunge to better, when better shall be taught him. On the contrary side he complayneth, that hitberfo for the space of manie yeeres, he hath seene these zealous persons assembled to destroy him, but not to instruct him. He complayneth of a procelle: beginning with execution, of a teaching, begunne with excommunication, without any kind of formalitie that eyther is requisit, or may be allowed to procede. Protesting before al Princes and estates, and aboue all others, before the King his Soueraigne Lorde, to whom he maketh his recourse for iustice, & before the estate of this kingdom, vnto whom he intendeth to represent his actions, against the authours and fauters of this league, of so manifest violence, p[re]cipitation,

tation, and iniustice.

The said King of Nauarre also affirmeth, that the name & blame of a relaps or a backslider, cannot rightly be applied vnto him, by vertue whereof, (though by a counsell he shoulde yeelde to chaunge his opinion) they presume is to depriue him from the succession of the Crowne, whereon God graunt they thinke as litle as he. And therby he referreth the cause to all mens vpight consideration, to thinke with what charitie his aduersaries procede herein. And whereunto their deuise may tend, to cut from him (as much as lieth in their power) the desire to procure his instruction in a counsell, without entring into the depth that might ouerthrowe it, both by Cannons, and examples. In their language, they call them Relapses or backsliders, that haue been heretiques and abiured there heresies, and yet neuer theles afterwards fall into the same againe. Wherefore forasmuch as the King of Nauarre (as here aboue appeareth) hath not by the Cannons been an heretique: it is most clere that he cannot be a relaps. He further affirmeth, that though he had been, or shoulde be an heretique, yet could he not be a relaps,

considering he was neuer converted fro the pretended heresie, and considering also, that no one euer thought to take any payne, or seeke meanes howe to perswade or convert him, but these zealous fellowes haue shot at no other marke, with all their driftes and endeuours, then to ouerthrowe and destroy him.

They alledge here, that the said Lord the King of Nauarre, after Bartholme we day, sent to the Pope, and yielded to goe to masse. Setting age asid, euery man knoweth what kinde of conuersion this was, and whether he had iust cause of feare or not, longer refutation would be friuolous. The truth is, if, by all lawes, our actions are accepted of no force, when they procede through feare or force: it is most certaine, that neuer had action lesse wil!, neither euer had any action more force. The truth is also, that he had not so sone recovered his will, but he caused the same to appeare by publique profession, what it was, and that in the midst of the Catholiques which were in his company, and seemed to possesse him at that time: without either dissimulation or subtiltie, whereby his errour might appeare to be altogether

together farre from hippocrisie.

The saide Lord the King of Nauarre most humbly beseecheth the King his Lord, that it would please him to take in good parte, his modest answere also, to that blame whiche they lay to his charge, that he is a persecuter of the Catholique Church. And touching this poynte, he citeth the consciences of his greatest enemies to answere befoze God, whether this title in any respecte can appertaine vnto him. Let euery man here consider, that the ciuill warres fel in the tender yeres of the said King of Nauarre, and whether there be any likelyhood, that he enterprised warre with a toyfull hart persecute the Catholikes, euery man knowing their number, authoritie, and force in this kingdom, to be wholly without and free from persecution: Who vnder the kinges onely name were in safetie, in regard of the sayde King of Nauarre, and of all that dependeth on him, from all attemptes, enterprises and iniuries whatsoeuer. Verily there haue ben rigours and persecutions heard, and spoken of in Fraunce, within the space of certaine yeres passed: But no man at any time interpreted them other wise then passionelie, in

W illi

regard

regard of them of the religion, and animely
in regard of others. And to vse any word to
the contrary, would be so vnaptly spoken,
that no man would vnderstand it.

It pleased King Charles to cause the said
King of Nauarre repayre to his Court, and
to honour him with Marriage of his sister.
He came thither in the religion wherein he
was brought up: But that which followed
may better be shadowed with silence, then
to be now againe fresh repeated. When he
departed from thence, he went backe into
his owne Countries. When peace was
made with my Lord that is deceased, the
said King of Nauarre vsed not so muche as
one word by way of request, for any thing
concerning him selfe, neither is there any
one article to be redde therein that toucheth
him. And yet without doubt he had greater
occasion then any other, either to beare some
stomacke for matters passed, or to be as it
were recompenced for the losses he suffered.
Doubteif the saide King of Nauarre woulde
not, for his owne particular occasion, hinder
the peace and tranquillitie of this Realme,
and the succour and comfort of the people, so
much as the space of one onely day. Yet it is
well

well known, that if he had been so minded;
it lay in his handes at that time, to haue ser-
ued his owne turne with the armie, of the
Kutters, who euery houre were readie (for
default of their pay at the Kinges handes,
according to the articles of the peace) to en-
ter into a mutinie, and turne their heads to-
wardes paris.

Contrariwise, then was the time where-
in the beades and maisters of this league
(abusing his clemencie and goodnes) deuised
this pretended holy league, agaynst the kin-
ges edict then newly proclaymed, whereby
in expresse wordes, they swore the vtter de-
struction of them of the religion, without a-
ny exception or acception of persons, and
without respect or regard of alliance, affini-
tie, consanguinitie, kinred, or brotherhood.
Such as entred thereinto, without looking
into the depth of the matter, beseue them-
selues out as soone as they knewe it. And as
concerning the saide King of Nauarre, then
were the instructions discovered, which at
this day are put in execution, concluding his
death & also the death of my Lord the prince
his Cozin, and all their blood, for the pre-
paring of a more easie waie to the aduersa-
ries,

Note of
Dauid the
advocate.

ries, (as is expressely set downe) to the inuasion of this kingdome . Heere let all men iudge, who at that time was the agent, or patient, the persecuter, or the persecuted .

Thence issued the ciuill wars of the yēre one M. five hundred & seauēty seauen, whē they had induced the assēblie of Bloys, to the execution of their deuise : it had beēne altogether against nature, if the sayde King of Nauarre, or they that are of his profession, had not made resistance against the same . For thereby a snare was layde for his person and life : his conscience and honoꝝ were layd for by the same , and the kingdome or royall estate, (as nowe manifestlie appeareth) was in danger . The great inconuenience and perrill, which the king perceiued not, did then but begin to bud forth, inso much, that his maiestie could not imagine anie such thing toward them, who helde all their prosperity of him . But the King of Nauarre wel foresawe it : yea contrariwise, the defaulte of resisting the same, would haue beēne the betraying of himselfe , the destruction of this estate, and the submission of himselfe to their desires, in steede of setting himselfe against the same.

In the meane space , though the cruell
 clauscs of the conspiracie were very suffi-
 ent, immediatly to turne his patience into
 fury, and the naturall mildnes and mercy
 of them that issue of his house, into reuenge:
 although also he saw the p[ro]fessors of his re-
 ligion, to runne to him from all partes, bee-
 ing rigorously persecuted , or put to theyr
 choyse to depart the Realme , or recant
 theyr religion. Yet neuerthelesse, the sayde
 Lord the King of Nauarre, in the Townes
 vnder his power, would not vse the like ma-
 ner of dealing toward the Catholiques, nor
 against the Monkes and Clergiemen, which
 indeede might be suspected , and dissauioure
 the execution of his affayres. On the contra-
 ry side, they of Agen well know (which ex-
 ample he alleageth , for that there was the
 place of his resident, hauing a byshopricke in
 it, and being a towne of some fame) that the
 Catholikes there suffered no hard dealing
 in theyr persons or goodes, nor discontinu-
 aunce in the matter of their religion. That
 the Clergie applyed their accustomed ser-
 uices. That the Monkes preached freely in
 the greatest heate of the sayd troubles. That
 he was content the p[ro]fessors of his religion
 should

should make theyr sermons in priuate and
 bozrowed houses, to the ende, the professors
 of the Romish religion should not in any
 wise be troubled. That for the furnishing
 of necessaries for his defence, he tooke not a-
 boue the tenthes which the king was wont
 to leuie vpon the clergie. At what time all
 his patrimony was seaso and taken out of
 his handes in all places: whereof my Lorde
 the Duke of Montpencido may be witnes,
 a prince most affectioned to the Romish re-
 ligion, as all men very well knowe. And al-
 so Mounfier the Marshall of Biron, my L.
 the Archbishop of Vienna, Mounfir de Vil-
 leroy, secretary of estate to his Maiestie, and
 many others, that were beholders of it vpon
 the places, can giue testimony of the same.

As soone as liberty of conscience was gran-
 ted, albeit with very great restraint in com-
 parison of the former edict, he vnarmde him-
 selfe without delay, though (as hys Maie-
 stie best of all others knoweth) hee coulde
 haue continued the warres with greater
 power and meanes, by reason of the notable
 ayde which hee had procured from the Prin-
 ces of hys religion, bearing so farre for-
 warde, that a strong Armye of straungers
 was

was at the poynt of entring into this king-
dome : thinking himselfe happy to haue dis-
patched the same away, in sort, that y^e pooze
people by occasion thereof might suffer no
farther inconuenience : choosing rather by
succouring them, to impayze his owne con-
dition, then to better it with theyr hinde-
raunce. Wherefore the sayd Lorde y^e King
of Nauarre, prayeth all men freely to speake
theyr mindes, whether hee hath in any re-
spect by his demerites, deserved the name
of a persecutor, which his enemies attribute
vnto him, that would not take this resolu-
tion, to suffer them goe forwarde with the
erecution of theyr barbarous persecutions
and bloudie deuises, against him at the first
shelue, but consequently against y^e Kinges
Maiesty and his royall estate.

In those Countries where the saide King
of Nauarre, by the grace of God, hath soue-
raigne pewel and authority, he thinketh al-
so to haue as little deserved this blame in
the iudgement of them y^e haue well knowne
the nature of matters, and the order of his
proceedinges: And in all that remaineth to
him of the kingdome of Nauarre, where at
his comming to hys dignity, he founde the
exercise

exercise of the Catholique Romish religion; it is most certeyne, that he hath neither altered nor innouated any thing therein, in so much that the seruice of the same is there stil vsed at this day, without any exercise of the reformed religion, sauing in two places onely.

And as touching his countrie of Bearne, which is no great land, the Quene his mother in a generall assemblie of the estates, did there establisth the said religion, whereof her selfe made profession, and no complaynt of the chaung of religion followed thereupon to the said estates, in the space of many yéeres after it had continued in the same estate, as he hath alredie freely declared, hauing alwaies been of this opinio, that a discret and well counselled Prince, without great necessitie or euident profit, ought not to bring any chaunge into his estate. And though commoditie or necessitie shoulde require the same, yet it were expedient that it shoulde be accomplished by the like waye, whereby the constitution was befoze made.

Nowe he had well perceined, that after
Bar.

Bartholme today, when him selfe, by force and violence, had yielded in the cause of religion, and sent Monsir de Micussent for gouernour and Lieutenant generall, into his sayde Countrie of Bearne (whom all men knowe to be a Catholique) with expresse commission there to set vp agayne, the Catholique Romishe religion: Yet notwithstanding the great dispayre that then was of the affayres of religiō in Fraunce, notwithstanding the contrary profession of him selfe, which might serue for an example to his subiectes, and notwithstanding the auctoritie of a gouernour by him expressly sent, they did all resolue to perseuer in their religion, and maintaine the forme of their estate, without receiuing the said alteration in religion.

Wherefore the sayde King of Nauarre, thought and let al men iudge whether without good reason or not) that it was a firme and well grounded resolution of his estates, forasmuch as necessity, yea & that such necessitie, as giueth law to al laws, was not in any wise able to remoue them from it. Also it is most true, that in the assemblies of the estates which are from yere to yere holden

holden in his said countrie of Bearnie, there neuer appeared any man that required this change of religion, though, (as it is well knowen, there is suche libertie vsed in those assemblies, that the least grieffe pretended to haue been receiued from the Synode, may be propounded with request of reformation and recompence, whereby it appeareth to be afore any practise, of the enuies of the tranquillitie of his subiectes, and not an inwarde desire of them. And yet for all that, the sayde Lord the King of Nauarre hath not ceased, to make continual payment of the pensions of the Prelats, and other Ecclesiastical persons of his said countrie, (so) prooue wherof, he will bring forth no other witnessles but them selues) and that most often with his owne proper money, as the bishops of Aques and Oleron, and others well knowe. And that moze is, of his owne mere motion, for the contentation of such of his subiectes, as might continue in the Catholique Romishe religion, he moderated touching the cause of Religion, the ordinances of the Queene his mother deceased, which were but very small amercementes in monie. So far of was it euer in those parties from such proceeding against the Catholiques,

tholiques, by banishment, corporall punishment, death, burnings, torments, searching & lifting, as they that in these dayes call themselves the professors of the Catholique Romish religion, have counsailed, practised, and brought in, against the professors of the contrary religion. And heereof the Catholiques of Bearnie are witnesses, who there live, in all peace and tranquillity. Of whome, many doe exercise notable offices, either in the same Countrey, or neere about the person of the sayd King of Navarre, and hath the chiefeest charge in his gards, and bee Captaynes of his best houses, which it is not likely that he wold ever allow, or consent vnto, if he had vled any euill dealing toward them, or if he kept any grudge in his heart, to bee executed against them heereafter.

By the premisses, it is sufficiently answered to theyr affirmation, whereby they pretende him to be the sworne enemye of the Catholiques. Yet neuertheless, the sayde Lorde the King of Navarre, desirous to open his hart to al the world, wil not sicke, to lay open vnto them, his
C.
affect

affections, and actions. Wherefore the
 sayde King of nauarre declareth, that he
 acknowledgeth and beloneth, and hath
 alwayes belonned and acknowledged, that
 in case the foundation of a good consci-
 ence be layde thereon, the diuersity of re-
 ligion, is no emphechement to a good
 Prince, to do a very good seruice in-
 differently from his subiects, nor any hin-
 deraunce to the subiects, to yelde theyr
 allegiance and bounden duties in all ma-
 ner of respects, as well to theyr superi-
 ours as to their Princes, soasmuch as
 it is euident, that both the religions, e-
 qually according to the word of God, do
 recommend the duetie of the subiecte to-
 ward his Prince, and of the inferiour
 toward his superiour. And therefore the
 sayd Lord the King of Nauarre, hath al-
 wayes noted thys, that he hath bene as
 faithfully serued by the one, as the other:
 As for example, in the distribution of the
 offices of his house, all men knowe well
 enough, he hath indifferently furnished
 them with both sortes of men. Also the
 sayd Lord, the King of Nauarre, knoweth
 himselfe to be well belonned, and faithful-
 lie

ly serued by Catholique Gentlemen, and
 other persons of all degrees, tohome hee
 hath accepted into his seruice, as on their
 behalpes, they wil all bolūtarily acknow-
 ledge themselves to bee loued by him.
 without acception of religion, and that
 according to the proportion of his abili-
 ty. he hath bestowed goods and honours
 vppon them, as largely, and moze aban-
 dantly, yea in the very tyme of warres,
 then he did to the professors of his owne
 religion. And further, it is not vnknown
 to the Lords, Gentlemen, and all other
 Catholiques, that during the time of the
 troubles, he spared them as much as hee
 coulde in theyr goods and houses, neuer
 suffering anie rigour of warre to be vsed
 to them, no not so much as against hys
 owne Vassalles that rose in Armes a-
 gainst hym, and were present at the de-
 stroying of his proper houses, who not-
 withstanding, after the warres were
 ended, making their repayze vnto hym,
 were all welcome to his presence, and
 neuer receyued for theyr disloyall doings
 so much as an euill word, or angry coun-
 tenaunce at his handes. So farre of

hath he bene from pradisling against the
directly, or indirectly, according to the
sundry meanes, which the Lord hath o-
uer his Vassall, any kinde of stomacke or
reuengement. Thus much also bare the
King of Nauarre promise of his actions,
that so many of y^e Catholiques as touch-
safed to appoche to him, departed againe
with good contentation, without obser-
uing any thing in him, whereby they
couloer presume otherwise, then that hee
bare a naturall affection, to embrace all
the Kings subiects and seruants, of what
soeuer religion they bee: promising in
like sort on theyr behalfe, the like good
wyl that they haue alwayes shewed to-
wardes his.

The sayde King of Nauarre thinketh
that the effects aboue specified, which he
hath hyther to continued, are of sufficient
weight to confute the allegations pro-
claimed against him by his enemies. Yet
neuertheles, haue they affirmed, that the
sayd Lord, the King of Nauarre hath sent
into Englande and Germany, to con-
clude a league, to the destruction and
confusion of the Catholiques, soz that
(as

(as they alledge) he foresaw the Kings death, and meant whensoever the same should happen, to be in a readinesse to change religion &c. to invade the possessions of the Clergie, and confiscate them of the Nobilitie. which would not ioyne themselves as adherents to his intention. Upon the which matter, they haue dispersed in all places, yea and caused to bee read in Sermons in the open Pulpitte, a certaine concord or agreement of the yere a thousand, five hundred and eighty foure, pretending the same to beare date the fourteenth of December: as resulting of an assembly holden (as they alledge) at the instance of the said king of Navarre at Magdebourg, & that likewise, at an assemblie holden at Montauban, hee had promised & sware (whensoever the kings death should chance) to abolish the Catholique Romish religion, stripping her of all her goods & possessions, and to depriue the professors thereof from all estates and dignities.

Here shall evidently appeare, how easilie every slander, naturally shall open and confute her selfe.

C. 3. First

First therfore the said king of Navarre,
 re, protesteth in his conscience before
 God, that with all his hart, he desireth
 and wilbeth prosperous and long life, to
 the king his soueraigne Lord, and neuer
 entred into any conceipt or opinion, to
 builde any deuise or purpose either vpon
 his death or after. Whiche he thinketh
 were not onely offences of hygh treason,
 that could not otherwise proceede, then
 from a disloyall and miserable desire of
 the death of his Prince, which would be
 pursued with all speedie effect, if power
 serued thereto. But also an offence; (in
 all respectes,) against nature and com-
 mon sence, for as much as his maiestie,
 thanks be to God, is in þ chiefe strenght
 and time of his age, and ful of health, and
 further, so final difference betweene both
 their ages, that it were a ridiculous mat-
 ter, in respect of the difference of two
 yeeres or there aboutes, to take suche ad-
 uantage one ouer the other. So farre
 hath the saide king of Navarre alwaies
 been from conceyuing any imagination
 (as the heads of the league haue done) to
 condemne the king as readie to die, by
 foreseeing the consequentes of his death,
 thirtie or

of forty yeres (as the layde King of Na-
uarre hopeth) before any neede require,
and that vnder coulour of prouiding for
the affayres of the Realme, although
in the meane space they call the same in
to most lamentable confusion.

So farre also hath he euer bene from
making open declarations, touching the
pronouncing and foreiudging of the King
and Quene his wife, to be barraine in
the flower and best strength of their age,
(as the said confederates haue done) be-
inge a thing neuer practised before in
the estates of christiendome, and a thing
also which the estates of England, would
not require of the Quene of Englande
yet vnnarped, reposing them selues vpon
her wisdomie, that she hauing gou-
erned them in peace during her life, wil
leauie the same for an inheritance to their
posteritie. To be briefe, the said King of Na-
uarre neuer did so much as once require
his soueraigne Lord and King, to declare
him to be that which naturally and law-
fully he is, or to giue any signe or token
therof, eyther by preferring and aduan-
cing him, or other wise, although the con-
federates

federates of the saide pretended holy
 league, haue enterprised the like, who
 haue armed agaynst him, my Lorde the
 Cardinall of Bourbon, a Prince of the
 age of threescore and six yeres, who is
 also a Prince without all hope both of
 marriage and posterity to be his heire: as
 though the Kinges Ma. their soueraigne
 Lord had not aboue a yere or 2. to lyue
 to haue children, and as though we shold
 rather expect issue from an olde man, ha-
 uing alwayes liued in single life, then fro
 the Kinges maiesties flourishing marriage,
 in the most chiefe and principall age of
 himselfe, and his Queene and wife. And
 as though, for all that, the said Lorde the
 King of Nauarre, coulde not perceiue the
 subtil deuises which y same persons haue
 a long time ben in deuising agaynst him,
 and also the practises which they made a-
 gainst him in y colonies, together with y
 conspiracies w^{ch} craftily they entred into
 Italy and Spayne to barre him, when the
 death shoulde happen, from the right of
 succession to this kingdom: for y which,
 his hope is, that God wil grant him such
 grace, giuing long life to the Kinges Ma-
 iestie, as that hee shall not haue any
 matter of controuersie, assuring him

selfe; that whatsoeuer it bee that Nature
or nature will giue vnto him, his eni-
mies shall neuer with all their leagues &
practises be able to empreach and hinder
him from the obteyning of the same.

The saide Lord the king of Nauarre,
frankely confesseth, that by a long space
he hath perceined the indirect deuises of
these confederates, agaynst the king and
his royall estate, And maketh most hum-
ble petition to his maiestie, to call to re-
membrance the aduertismentes, that the
saide king of Nauarre, gaue vnto his roy-
all maiestie in that behalfe, in the yere
of our Lord, M. D. l. r. and xli. At what
time he purposely set to his grace a gen-
telman with certen remembrances, con-
cerning the very same matters, from
poynt to poynt, that this day are taken in
hande to be executed. When also these
confederates beganne to lay their foun-
dation, vnder colour of the name of bre-
therhood and holy league. That soone af-
ter the peace concluded, in the yere. M.
D. l. r. and xlii. he perceiued the frame
and building thereof erected by the stur-
res then made among the estates, stirred
vp by the diuers prouinces agaynst the
service

service of his Majestie, so farre, that they
 would have enticed the very professors
 of the reformed religion to the same, &
 had entred into treaty with the most no-
 ble Prince Cazimire, Countie Palatine
 of Rhyne. Who (as he will alwaies con-
 fesse) seeing into the depth of their devises
 pretended against the estate, for the ho-
 nour & amitie, which his ancestors had
 alwaies borne to the house of Fraunce,
 would not harken any further to that
 matter. What afterward as the affayres
 of the enemies proceeded from steppe to
 steppe, the King of Navarre also made dis-
 couery of their treaties in Italy, & Spain,
 of the money that was received, of the
 matters by them propounded in those
 partes, and what answeres they recey-
 ved touching the same. Whereunto the
 King his majesty, who in his mind could
 not containe so great ingratitude to lurke
 in their hartes toward him, made it a
 hard matter to be belened; neverthelesse
 the said King of Navarre did expect some
 suddayne clappe of this mischief from
 day to day, (as a ruine thoroughly percei-
 ued by him before.) That he remembered
 the taking and execution of Salcedo, who
 had

had confessed a great part of those things
 which are well perceyued: at this daye,
 which then were endeuoured to be obscu-
 red by craft and cunning sleighes. But
 yet the certenty thereof, stayed in the
 hartes of the kings true subiectes. That
 Mounſire (who is deceased) hadde not
 without good ground giuen aduertisment
 thereof to the King, that vnlesse Salcedo
 had been gyltie of moze then ordinarie
 crymes, the King would neuer haue ta-
 ken so much paines, as to send two of the
 chiefest of his counsell of estate into the
 lowe countries, to fetch him to his pre-
 sence. Neyther would haue been present
 at hys examinations and repetition of
 hys depositions &c. Whereupon it follo-
 wed, that by the diffinitive sentence of
 the Courte of Parliament at Paris, hee
 was pulled in peeces with foure horses,
 as a high trayto: to the king, and all the
 estate of Fraunce. That by theyr memo-
 rials, proceedinges, and theyr assotia-
 tions, newly made in the most part of the
 good towne of this Realme, there was
 sufficient euidence giuen, that theyr co-
 lour and pretence was, to roote out that
 religion which the King of Nauarre pro-
 fesseth,

felleth, and most specially to destroy him
 if it lay in their power, in such that the
 first stroke of their thunderbolt would
 have lighted first upon his heade. If his
 maiestie in the meane space saue not in
 to the enge of their practises. By occasion
 wherof, the saide king of Nauarre percei-
 uing the king his Soueraigne Lord, had
 giuen no order therein, and foreseeing
 their pretence, tended to destroy the pro-
 testantes, was iustly moued to haue re-
 gard to his affayres. And therefore about
 the yeere. D. v. r. lxxx. and thre, he dispat-
 ched Mounsr de Segur Pardillian, Super-
 intendent of his house, to the Daene of
 Englande, the King of Denmarke, the
 princes electors of Almanie, the Lant-
 graue of Hesse, and other Princes and es-
 tates. First, to exhort them, to seeke mea-
 nes to agree the controuersies in religio,
 which remayned in the reformed chur-
 ches, and were abused to their common
 destruction. Secondly, to renewe and as-
 sure a perfect amitie with them: without
 desiring or employing them any farther.
 Thirdly, to furnishe in Almanie a good
 somme of money, therewith to prouide whe-
 nere

neede should require a contentment succor
 against his mortal enemies. Al the which
 things, Princes and estates, are straigh-
 ly allied to y^e Crowne of Fraunce, with
 whom the King his Soueraigne Lorde
 hath Ambassadors, with which Ambas-
 sadores, the saide Mounier de Segor had
 expresse charge to conferre, and so did at
 certaine times, whom he tooke for wit-
 nesses of his sayings & doinges, of his
 propositions, negotiations & conclusions.
 And after his returne, the saide King of
 Navarre most humbly besought his ma-
 iestie to glue commaundement, y^e with al
 diligence, information might be taken &
 brought to his Maiestie of al his legatio,
 being fully assured, that therin they may
 most playnely beholde, his french hart,
 sincere affection, & true loyaltie towarde
 his maiesties person and Royall estate.

Wherefore y^e said King of Navarre, re-
 quireth al the aforesaid most noble kings
 & princes, to give testimonye to the King
 vnder their owne signetts, & to his king-
 dome and al chrystendome, whether at a-
 ny tyme, there haue been on his behalfe
 any

any letters or instructions delivered, or communication had, either against the Kinges dignitie, or against the wealth and felicity of hys estate, or in any respect, contrary to the duty of a most humble and most deuoute servant & subiect: whether euer hee moued them to make warre vpon the King, to renue the troubles, or destroy the Catholiques: whether euer any ouerture hath bene directly or indirectly made vnto them, touching the Kings death, or any matter to followe vpon the same. Also the sayde Lord the King of Nauarre most humbly beseecheth hys Maiestie, that he may be tollerated, to sende thys hys declaration to the sayde Princes, against the aforesaid mentioned slaunders: and to cause the same to bee presented by his Maiesties owne Ambassadors, to wytte, by every of them in the place wher he is resident, to all Christian Princes, friends, and confederates of this kingdom. To thys ende, that if he haue treated of any lyke matter, then they now seing him protest the contrary, may esteeme him for a counterfeyte Prince, of small sayth and troth,

troth, and in all respectes vncomfytte of
theyr amity and frendshyppe, which hys
abovesayd enemies goe about to make
suspected. And which for hys owne parts
he franklie declareth, that his desyre is,
with all carefulnes to entertayne, as hee
thinketh, he hath most reasonably sought
the same.

As touching the concord or agreement,
the aduersaries allege it to beare date,
the fourteenth day of December, in the
yeere 1580. and there make the sayde
Mounfier de Segur present, as Ambassa-
dour from the King of Nauarre : who
had departed out of Alman, repassed in-
to the Lowe Countries, and from thence
into Englande, where he soiourned two
monethes and aboue : and yet notwith-
standing, the employment of all that
tyme, was imbarqued to returne into
Fraunce, before the fourteenth day of De-
cember. In which con corde they bring
in the Ambassadors of the Elector Pa-
latine, and of the Prince of Orange, the
one dead aboue a yeere before, leauing
hys heire vnder yeeres, during whose
mynority, Duke Cazimir governeth the
Elector

electors: the other numbered foure
 monethes before by a Gesaite, suborned
 by such as are like to the confederates of
 this pretended holy league. And yet ne-
 verthelesse, both the saide princes (as the
 aduersaries alledge) are bound to be pre-
 sent this moneth of May in the towne of
 Basill, concerning the concluding of some
 agreement in the controuersies of religi-
 on. The aduersaries adde with all, that
 the King of Nauarre, on the xliiii. day of
 Aprill then next, promised to enter into
 armes, at which time forsooth they them-
 selues were resolved to enter into them,
 and now goe about to deriue the hatred
 thereof vppon this Prince, who being on
 euery side compassed about with their
 conspiracies, yet sturreth not at al. They
 date the said contract at Maidenbrough,
 a towne apperteyning to the sonne of my
 Lord the elector of Brandenbough, and
 yet in the concord they remember nei-
 ther father nor the sonne. And in truth it
 is no other but an imaginary assemblie:
 For neither in that place nor any other,
 canne there anye assemblie be founde to
 haue been holden. Further, the tytles,
 and

and qualities are to be suffered, as the
saying also and contributions of what you
monie; to end p^{ro}positions; and he does
that, so many other abhorvities, that it is
easier to m^{ake} shame, or els to forget
independence; to abuse Dravies, both to
soule a matter, being a prophane thing,
more m^{ake} for a leane peolers benche,
then for a p^{ro}phets charge; which he it
over for a result; to all the w^{ar}ren of
poore people intending to the p^{ro}phets
one, with very subtle and subtilly edge
dred; for what can they p^{ro}phets both
more warre dures; as in 1594, as in 1595
of the assembly of Montauban; as in
which no more blamed; for any thing that
dependeth thereof, nor more discrete for
any thing published by the of the league,
touching the same. The truth is, that
when the king had concluded peace in
the yere of thousand five hundred and
seventy seven, with full intention, that
the same should be ratly and diligently
executed, his Majesty left in the custody
of the king of Navarre and the p^{ro}phets
Hantes, eight thousand; for the space of
five yeres, whilst all p^{ro}phets and
obediences might be pacified and whiped
in this reading. As in 1594, as in 1595

This good intention of the king, very ma-
 ny desirous of nothing more then to re-
 move the troubles, (who after sette them-
 selves in Armes with y^e Authors of this
 league) by all meanes possible, crossed
 the execution of the sayde edict of peace,
 and at all houres by sundry newe enter-
 prises gave occasion of distrust, in sorte,
 that y^e wounds which they sought to have
 cured, were sozer: and the edict of peace,
 which in tyme past was to take effect,
 stode backwarde steppe by steppe,
 and was cleane cut away from the Pro-
 testants, point after point. By the con-
 tinuance of which practices, it came to
 passe, that during the five yeres, y^e peace
 was diversely interrupted, by surp-
 rises, and attempts, yea and by open
 war, that continued the space of a whole
 yere: whence issued y^e conferences of Ne-
 rac & Fleix, so y^e the five yeres which were
 passed for y^e ransoming of the places,
 sufficed not to work the effect wherunto
 they were limited: and that by reason
 of those interruptions of the execution of
 the edict, of the pacifying of old grudges
 which were promised to be brought to
 passe within y^e tyme. In y^e meane while,

the

the thing by the satisfaction of certain
 persons, demanded the topics to be yel-
 ded up, for that the petition was con-
 sidered, howbeit, by other means, the protest-
 ants of the reformed religion, seeing the
 causes still to continue, to wit, the con-
 fusions of mistrust, and old grudges reman-
 ed by the troubles, made some difficulty
 therat, most humbly beseeching his Ma-
 jesty not so much to regard the time per-
 sed, as the harme and inconvenience hap-
 pened in the meane space, and rather to
 have consideration of the effect that was
 promised during the five yeeres, and at
 the expiration of the same, to witte, du-
 ring the five yeeres, the execution and con-
 tinuance of peace, and withal, the bury-
 ing of dissensions & grudges: & consequen-
 tly at the ende of the five yeeres, the yel-
 ding up of the places, which for y^e matter
 stood then in such harde case as is afore
 specified, was not agreeable to that grace
 and equity of his Maiesty, from whence
 the grant of the places first proceeded,
 inasmuch as the condition by him ex-
 pressed, took no such effect as within that
 time was hoped for. This Maiestie ther-
 fore, not so much desirous of the obli-
 vation of the former, as to heale the sore,

and reuinite his subiects, thought it expedient, not to presse them of the religion with rigour. And when the king of Navarre had declared vnto his Spanishe, that his sayd subiects of the religion, had great complaints, to be exhibited to hys grace, concerning the execution of the edictes, which if they were heard and satisfied, then should the yielding tpye of the sayd places be the more easily attained vnto mounteban. The sayde Lorde the king, by the mouth of Mounfir de Belicure, one of the cheefest of hys counsaile of estate, at the request of the sayd Lorde the king of Navarre, consented vnto the assembly of Montanban, consisting of the Bzinces, Lordes, Gentlemen, and men of good calling, of the sayde religion. And during all the tyme of the continuance of that assembly, the sayde Mounfir de Belicure, was present in the Kinges name in the Towne of Montanban, whom the said Lorde the king of Navarre requireth to beare witnes of his actions, and desireth to be heard and credited in all that he knoweth concerning the sayd assembly. So then this assembly of Montanban was not like vnto theye of the league,

league, to wyth, a conuocation, without
the knowledge and good liking of the
king, but by the consent and command-
ment of his Priestie, which assembly
of Monks, after ryper deliberation
had upon the same, he iudged to bee ne-
cessary for the wealth and
tranquillity of his estate. In this as-
sembly, there was made a generall statute
of all the breaches and executions of the
oath of peace, which was presented to
the king at So. Germaine in Lay, by
Mounseur the Countie of Laual, and o-
ther Deputies, with most humble re-
questes, for remedy of the greife of his
layd subiectes of the religion. Therin al-
so, all men promised for any particular at-
tempt moued against them, not to seek
their recompence by like iniurious at-
tempts, leaſt the temerity of some parti-
cular persons might call this decree in
to trouble, as sometime before was sup-
posed to haue bene ſener: but to make
theyr complaint to the king of Navarre,
who would cause vnderſtanding to bee
given thereof to the king, who according
to his indignation ſufficiently percey-
ued, concerning the tranquillity of his
subiects, knewe best howe to apply con-

nement remission to the same. And
 likewise the King of Navarre promi-
 sed to embrace theyr cause towards his
 Priestlye; and carefully to present
 the same unto hym when neede should
 requyre; as he hadde alwayes done
 in tyme past, to the ende, that they
 seeing hym take theyr cause in hande
 towards the King; myght the better
 be retained; without the humillities of
 exiles; without imagyning any such
 extraordinary means, as they hadde
 attempted in former tyme; for lacke
 of recourse; and supporte elswhere.
 Where is all that canne be founde to
 have passed in the sayde assembly of
 Montargis, and no more then this.
 The small purpose, wherof is moste
 evident; to be for the staying of pry-
 vate attempts from rising to a pub-
 lique mischief and hurt; that might
 trouble the peace of this Realme. lyke
 to the conference of Nerac, holden with
 the Quene Mother of the King; where
 there was an expresse Article in that be-
 halfe. And whatsoever the enemies dis-
 perse more then is here expressed, is no
 truer then theyr allegation touching the
 pretended concords of Magdenbough,

where

where the Jesuits had forgot themselves
that they had caused the Prince of Orange
to be slain, upon this monethes after
his death they came to come forth again
into the place.

After this the King who was thoroughly
informed, of all that had bene treated of
in the late assembly, found their reason
to be indifferent, that of his owne accord, he
will accorde unto them the townes of sure
tie for certayne yeeres, perceiving how
rye well, his count was not so well exe-
cuted as hee thought it had bene.
Wherby is one of the graces, to preserve
the layd confederates of the league they
made against the King of Navarre, you
may make protest against the things here
said, as it shall be.

Certainly the King of Navarre think-
eth, that whosoever will call to remem-
brance what hath passed within these
yeeres, within the space of the time of
fourteen yeeres, will not thinke strange
that there were demanded in the con-
clusion of peace certayne townes of re-
traye and surety, and that request was
made to his majesty. When the terme
was expired, the count then being there
present, and the distressed not being, that

these securities might haue further con-
 firmance for a certayne time, because
 the danger was not taken from the said
 townes, and so that the end of peace,
 wheron their life and tranquillity depen-
 ded, was not then seeme to be in any good
 estate. Nevertheless, the sayde King of
 Navarre, with most truly confesse, that the
 principal cause wherefore, besides the co-
 mmon necessity of the profession of the re-
 formed religion, he had a pertycular de-
 sire to make a most humble petition to his
 maiestie to leaue the said townes still for
 a certayne tyme, was the conspiracie of
 the se confederates, the effect wherof he
 continually expected, agaynst the which
 the professours of the reformed religion,
 whose deathes were conspired by the said
 confederates, had great neede of places of
 refuge, till God should graunt them such
 grace, as that the King might haue per-
 fect intelligence of their intentions, and
 verily the greatest part of them whiche
 during the peace attempted upon the said
 townes of Surenes (whom the King al-
 waies dislaughed) he at this day sufficiet
 ly open unto us, by whose auyding and
 allowance, they durst presume to trouble
 the peace, and enterpise vpon the sayde
 places

places and others of the religion: For
 wherby they had taken armes in the seruice
 of the league. Some the said King of Na-
 uarre, most humbly beseecheth the King
 to call to his remembrance, the aduertis-
 mentes which he gaue to his Maiestie,
 by the space of a moneth before the sayde
 assembly of Montauban, which were ve-
 ry sufficient to cause his Maiestie at that
 tyme to haue regard to hys affaires: and
 in default thereof, earnestly to admonish
 him, to seeke or retayne out some place
 of surety for hys person, against whom
 they manifestly pretended some mis-
 chiefe.

If the enemies shall now alledge, that
 they haue taken Armes, and seized hys
 Maiesties Townes, to the intent to haue
 townes of security also, according to the
 example of them of the Contrary religi-
 on, as some of them haue affirmed. Then
 the king of Navarre prayeth them alto-
 gether, to make declaratiō to al France,
 what distrust hath moued them thereto.
 For of truth, it is harde to gesse, what
 causes they haue to distrust the King, to
 mistrust the Catholiques, to complayne
 of the hatred, iniuries, or quarrels of the
 professors of the reformed religion.

Certainly it is so well known, that the
 King hath committed into their hands
 his forces and kingdoms. If his maiestie
 had went any harme toward them, they
 could not now haue had so great means
 to do harme as they haue. It is well kno-
 wen also, that they haue as it were, de-
 uided this kingdome amongst their bre-
 thren, and betwene them of their obli-
 gation, by meanes of the great offices,
 and ample gouernementes which they
 haue in their hands, yea some of them,
 to the damage of the princes of the kings
 blood: What they haue commanded o-
 ver the armies: assualted Townes, giuen
 battayles, bestowed offices, and for a
 full reckoning haue for the space of cer-
 ten yeres, distributed the kings fauour
 as they lysted. What untill his day, whi-
 lest they made a shew to obey the kings
 commandments, they haue been hono-
 red by the nobilitie, and the good townes,
 they haue borne authoritie in the same.
 They haue there assured whom soeuer
 it pleased them. So farre haue they been
 from standing in needs them selues to be
 either gaunted or warranted by others,
 as agaynst any other. Further it is well
 known, how they haue discussed their
 owne

those quarters, by the kings proper ar-
 mes, and erected their residences at the
 costs of his kingdom, if they cannot accept
 them selves assured, truly at these un-
 raunces; it shall needs be, that their
 conscience is afraid; fully retiring onto
 them, that they have greatly abused the
 kings clemency and counsell; and the
 authority they have under his majesty,
 against him selfe. And for that they can
 not put them selves in any security,
 against his majesty, except it be by him-
 selfe; therefore they attempt against his
 person, and invade his estate. But if they
 alledg, that they want assurances against
 the possessors of the religion in France;
 certainly all men know well enough, that
 for eight places which the Protestantes
 retaine, those confederates have as many
 whole governments within this king-
 dome: which so ever they see shall stand
 stand this inequality (as there is no man
 so ignorant, but perceiveth it) will never
 believe that they of a league, have sought
 for their places of security against the
 Protestantes; neither will ever believe,
 that they stand in any feare to be assa-
 ulted by them, that hitherto have had suffi-
 cient bulwarks to defend them selves; and
 could

could never hurt their animies, except
 they were warranted by the King,
 strengthened with his authority, and
 armed with his power. *Ubi agitur in di-*
uina To the ends therefore, that all men
 may know, both the Sinceritie of the said
 Iude the King of Navarre, and the hyp-
 pocrisie of his animies; and that under
 the paine of certaine forfeitures given to
 him, upon every ill cause of distrust,
 they shal not allege any necessitie to de-
 mande the like against him, and namely
 they which were alwayes in the Kinges
 favour, nor at this day do no harme, but
 through the such great confidence that
 hath bene reposed in them; and the too
 great credite which hath been given un-
 to them: The sayd King of Navarre, of-
 fereth for the common benefite and
 wealth of this kingdome, (notwithstand-
 ing the inequality in all respects, be-
 twix his degree and theirs); that he is
 ready to yelde up into the Kinges ma-
 iesties hands, the Townes of Guertie
 which he hath in his custodie and power,
 without staying for the expiring of the
 two yeeres prolonged; which it pleased
 his Maiestie to grant. Upon condition,
 that they of y^e league binarie the selves,

and yeild up into the kinges hands those
places wherupon they haue sealed; that
his Maiestie may dispose of the same at
his pleasure. Whereupon he offereth; (not
withstanding the said inequalities) aswell
on his owne behalfe, as for my Lord the
Prince of Conde his Cousin; for the re-
moving of all scruples from the adver-
saries (if they haue any) and to restore
the peace: So yeild up into the kinges
hands, the governments whiche it hath
pleased his Maiestie to grant vnto the
in this kingdom, to be disposed according
to his Maiesties will and pleasure: So
that the adversaries, will likewise yeild
up into his Maiesties handes; those go-
uernments whiche they hold. Whas saue
are they (from the assurance whiche al-
most know to be rather deu vnto them) from
being importunate vpon the king for new
securities, and new governments, as
their adversaries which are not ashamed
to capitulate in their articles, that the go-
uernements of Normandy, Picardy,
Lionnois, Salusse, Mece, Thon, and Ver-
dun, &c. should be distributed betwixt
them of their house: So wilt, to speake
rightly, considering what they haue ac-
red) the greater part of this kingdom.

By the premises, the King of Navarre
thinketh it clearly appeareth, whether
his adversaries or he, doo most like the
common welth of the poore people, the
contentation of the Kinges maiestie, and
the rest and tranquillitie of this estate,
verily it is so absurd, that & seruant of the
house would be credited to be more zealous
of the benefite of the same, then the
naturall child of the familie. What these
strangers would make vs beleue they
hauie greater care of the preservation of
this estate, then those in whom that care
is naturally borne with the interest.
These strangers (I say) whose great-
ness cannot be increased without blem-
me and dissipation; who haue made no
conscience to publish him for an enemy
of this estate.

Whereupon, the said Lord the King of
Navarre, prayeth all orders and estates
of this Realme, to make a comparison
in this place (although in truth they
be matters incomparable) of
the demeanour of his predecessors in
this kingdom, who from the father to
the sonne, haue kept this name, that they
were neuer authors of any oppression
to the people, nor of iniurie to the nobilitie.

tie : with the demeanours of the predecessors of the heades of this league, who wilbe founde to haue erected since they set fote in Fraunce, the sale of offices, of iustice, newe subsidies vppon the poore people, whose iuice and substance they drewe out vnder King Henry and King Fraunces the seconde : And also confusion in offices and dignities, which they first of all transferred at their pleasures, and solde from one hand to another : To conclude, it wilbe founde that they haue encreased simony in the Church, and brought in the sale of the temporalities for their owne profite, to be reuanged vppon their enemies, vnder colour of heresie.

As touching his owne person, he also prayeth all the estates of this Realme, to remember, or make inquirie, what charges locuer he had to beare & maintaine : Whether ever he were the cause, of any surcharge of the people : Contrariwise, how he gouerneth that small number of subiects which God hath giuen vnto him, who wilbe founde not to haue been overcharged with any imposts, taxes, nor subsidies, notwithstanding the great affairs

he hath

hath had a long time: whether he ever com-
 mitted any outrage, in word, or deed, in
 goods, or person, to any gentelman what-
 soever (though he hath been strangely offe-
 ded by many) for any maner of occasion,
 either in his house, or in his countries.
 Whether for any rigour that he receiued
 at the hands of the professors of the Romish
 religion, he neuer did wrong to any Pre-
 late, Curate, Donke, or any other of the
 Cleargie. Contrariwise, whether they
 haue not alwaies bene welcome to him,
 and courteously receiued at his handes, &
 he more readie to forget those offences
 which they had committed agaynst him,
 then others by whom he had been offen-
 ded, were to cease from renewing their
 euil demeanour toward him. Whether
 he haue not alwaies yielded honour and
 respecte to the Soueraigne Courtes, and
 the officers of the same, and also to all o-
 thers that beare the marke of Justice.
 And whether he did ever either forcibly
 commit any violence to iustice, or els deny-
 ed necessary strength to iustice, if it were
 in his power to ayde her. And as tou-
 ching all other parties of this estate, he
 that to enery of them hath not shewed a-
 ny thing, saving honour, frendship, and
 good

godwill, neither ever displeased or de-
sired otherwise then to pleasure them;
cannot easily be belieued, nor iudged for
an enimie of this estate.

Concerning the estate ingenerall,
he will not denye, but that the Ciuill
warres haue brought into this king-
dome, great confussion in all thinges,
pouertie to the people, decaye to the no-
bilitie, Ruine to the Cleargie, Contempt
to iustice, men addicted to warre, and a-
boue all the rest, ciuill warre which he
bewaileth in his hart, and woulde reme-
die if possibly he could, yea with his owne
proper blood.

But God is witnesse, his conscience
witnesseth, Franunce her selfe witness-
eth, hauing bygght eyes, and verie
freshe memorie, by reason she sawe
and well remembzeth all the course of
that time, whether he entred into arms,
except it were through the counsel of ex-
treame necessitie, though long afores-
hande he might haue foresene and pre-
uented her by reason. The assembly of
Blois is witnesse, stirred vp by this pre-
sent league, where he was declared to be
banished

banished out of this realme with all the
 professors of his religion, except they
 changed their religion very quickly.
 Which to him peradventure were no
 hard change, if he had as little religion
 in him as the aduersaries haue, whether
 also he euer delayed by receiuing of peace,
 for any particuler occasion whatsoener,
 (albeit his degré is such, as that which
 to him is particular, might rightly be
 iudged for publique) when his conscience
 might be satisfied, and could see that the
 professors of the same religion which he
 professeth, might serue God according to
 their sayth, in tranquillitie and quietnes:
 Whether he euer demaunded any thing
 gaynesfull to him selfe, encrease of autho-
 ritie, encrease of pensions, or encrease of
 offices: Whether contrariwise, he hath
 not rather chosen, to see him selfe as he is,
 without authoritie in his gouernemēt
 which by the peace ought to be al yelded
 into his handes, then to prolong the war
 neuer so little, then by the space of so
 much as an houre, to delaye the comfort
 and succour of the people, by the peace, or
 to trouble the peace after it was made,
 for default of enioying that which was
 promised in his regarde. The articles of
 the

the last peace may be for witnesses, and the conference of Flex, wherein he might fitly haue serued his owne turne to enlarge his conditions, by reason of the great desire which Mounſir that is deceased, had to passe into the Low Countries, whether he was called by a general Ambassage of the estates of y^e countrey, who most instantly required and sollicitied him to come thither. Yet the King of Nauarre, at that time rather yielded away his owne intrrest to the aduancement of this kingdome, then he would neuer so little, differ or stande to make merchandise of a benefite as might thereby come to his partie. Wherefore he made peace, and accepted it with suche conditions as pleased his maiestie to graunte, to the intent to further the conquest of those countries, and to transport him selfe thither in person, yf it might so stande with his maiesties fauour and good liking. These good Frenchmen the heades of the league, to empeach the ioyning of Flaunders to Fraunce, when the Ambassadors of the Low Countreyes offered it to the King, with such conditions as that they were

readie to receyue lawe from his Ma-
iestie, and admytte into their towne,
suche Garrisons, and gouernours as
pleased hym. To the intent to let and
hinder his maiesty there from, both here
and trouble his kingdome, cause his peo-
ple to rise into mutinies, and in time
of full peace begyn to make warres.

What pacience the King of Nauarre,
hath vsed in all that time, notwithstanding
the discontentment that he might
conceiue by the dealing which at the sug-
gestion, of such as be like to the aduersa-
ries, vsed toward hym, I leaue it to the
consideration of all the worlde, beyng
seperated from the King, without auc-
thoritie in his gouernement, not payed
of that whiche was due vnto him, and
much lesse respected in his affayres, then
the least Captayne of the kingdome. We
it spoken without reproche.

And to vtter the plaine truthe of
his demeanours. If he had been no
more touched with the feelyng and
consideration of the grieve and detry-
ment of the people, and of all
Fraunce, then they of the league bee at
this

thys day, besing that partye which
 hee is: both people and Countrey myght
 haue fallen into vtter destruction: But
 hee is a Frenchman, and a French
 Prince, a member of Fraunce, and feel-
 leth her greeses and woundes.

Diminishing of authozity, want of
 fauour, particular interest, hadde neuer
 the power to make hym rage and spight
 agaynst hymselfe, whych is a thing pro-
 per to the Leaguers, who are but light-
 ly grafted in Fraunce, and are lyke to
 wooden legges, and tymber Armes,
 that feelee nothing when the body is bur-
 ned. To which kinde of men, may bee
 easily gyuen the outward parte, but not
 the inwarde affection, neyther the mo-
 uing of feeling: of a true and naturall
 Frenchman.

Touching these broyles and commoti-
 ons, whych they declare and protest to bee
 directly agaynst him, bending themselues
 agaynst his person, his lyfe, his honour,
 his conscience: seeing them armed, and
 and takinge Townes, in the myddest
 of his Government, beeing on euery
 side compassed and encombred by them,
 his patience incessantly stirred and mo-
 ued: yf he had not respected the King

more then his owne pꝛyuate daunger,
 if he had not earnestly desired the wel-
 fare of this Realme, with hope of a pub-
 lique peace (if he may haue any peace
 at these mens handes) yea and that more
 then his owne pꝛeseruation, is there a-
 ny likelyhooe, or was there any reason,
 he shoulde holde hym selfe content as he
 hath done: But all is well, so the people
 be at quiet, he lyketh all well, so the
 estate remayne in peace, the King obey-
 ed, the King honoured as he ought to be,
 yea though it were to his owne euident
 peryll with his losse vnrecoverable.

Here is the whole somme of al things,
 whereby the King of Nauarre came be
 blamed with these sayze tytles of here-
 tique, Relaps, persecutor of the Church,
 enemye of the Catholiques, and distur-
 ber of this estate. As touching the conclu-
 sion which they drawe from thence,
 whereby they declare him vncapable to
 succede in the kingdome, and haue cau-
 sed my Lorde the Cardinall of Bour-
 bon his Vnckle, to take vpon him the
 name of the first Prince of the blood and
 Heire apparent.

This certainly is the poynt & most of
 all others sticketh in theyr parts, where-
 vpon

upon the sayd King of Navarre, hath be-
 ther to thought least, and none last of all
 it is presented to him. Touching this
 point, the said Lord the King of Navarre,
 contenteth himselfe, in hope that God
 will long preserve life to the Kings Ma-
 iestie, for the benefit and common wealth
 of thys Realme, and graunt him thus in
 due time, to the great greefe of all his en-
 emies. Hys confidence also is, that hee
 hath to do with Frenchmen, not wyth-
 standing, al the care and diligence that
 hath bene vsed to corrupt them, who
 know the rights, are not ignorant of the
 discentes, and will maintaine him in the
 place and degree which he ought to hold.
 He comforteth himselfe in God, the de-
 fender of all right, the revenger of all
 violence, who seeth both parties, whose
 most righteous iudgment is not like to
 to corporal men, whose most definitive
 sentence is certaine, and the execution
 therof invariable, in soyt, that nothing is
 of power to resist the same.

For conclusion, and as concerning rei-
 gion, the said Lord the King of Navarre
 declareth to the King hys soueraigne
 Lorde, to all orders and estates of thys
 Realme, and to all Princes and estates

of thys Realme, and to all Princes and
 estates of Christendome, as well tempo-
 rall, as ecclesiasticall, that he is, and e-
 uer wyll be most ready, to submit hym-
 selfe to the determination of a lawfull,
 Generall or naturall counsell, as is ex-
 pressed in hys Maiesties edict of pacifica-
 tion. And as concerning this estate & the
 administration of the same, that he most
 wyllingly doth and wyll embrace and
 repose hymself vpon, whatsoener in that
 behalfe shalbe ordayned in a lawfull as-
 sembly of the estates of thys Realme,
 when it shall please hys Maiesty to call
 the same together. In the meane space,
 the onely request and petition of the said
 King of Navarre is nothing els, but that
 he may liue quietly vnder the benefite of
 the edicts. Being ready to employ hys
 lyfe, his meanes, lands and goods, and all
 hys frendes, for the defence of the King,
 of hys Maiesties estate, and all the good
 subiects of thys Realme.

And forasmuch as they of y^e said league
 haue taken the said King of Navarre, for
 the matter & pretence of they^r ryling in
 Armes, & would haue all men think, that
 their quarrell is onely against him, & no
 man els, soluing diuers slaunders abroad
 against

against him, in their saide protestations, wher in by expresse name, they publishe him to be desirous of h^e kings death, a disturber of the estate, & sworn enemy of h^e Catholiques, &c. Duer and aboue all the premisses, which he thinketh sufficient to satisfy every man, the K. of Navarre with al reuerence, most humbly beseecheth the K. his soueraigne L. (to whose eares he doubteth not but these slanders are come) not to take in euil part (saying alwaies the hono^r & respect due to his M.) that he asseyne and pronounce in this place, in that maner and sorte which presently he be dothe to wit, that all they which haue solwen abroade and published the saide slanders, contained in h^e said protestations against, him haue falsly and slanderously lyed, excepting the saide Lord Cardinall his Uncle.

And further, to giue their slanders the lye, by his actons, the said Lord the K. of Navarre, most humbly beseecheth the King his soueraigne L. to vouchsafe the good liking of his most humble fidelitie and deuotion, in this offer which hee hath thought good here to make to his Maestie, to witte, that for the quietnes and ease of his Maestie and people, it would please

please him, wyth good liking to decyde
 thys quarrell betwæne them of the sayd
 league, and hym the sayde King of Na-
 varre, wythout hazarding his Maiesties
 life therein, which would be too greate a
 losse in thys kingdome: and without a-
 ny further paynes to be taken by his M.
 about the same. Hoping that God wyll
 gyue him grace, to find sufficient frends,
 and allyes of hys crowne, to bzing them
 to reason, & to bzing thē to acknowledge
 theyr most bounden duetye, which they
 owe to the saide Lord the king hys souer-
 raigne, and the respect and honour that
 vnder hys M. ought to appertaine to the
 sayd king of Navarre.

But specially for that he can not with-
 out sighing and shedding of teares, thinke
 vppon the great spoyling of the Nobili-
 ties blood, which may procede of thys
 warre: nor vpon the extreame pouertye
 and desolation, which the poore people of
 thys Realme shall bee drinen to suffer,
 neyther vpon the disorder and confusion
 which thereby will bee brought into all
 estates, in steede of the great piety, mer-
 cy, and wysedome of hys Maiestie, in
 preparing, (if this commotion hadde not
 happened) as all men knowe to establissh
 thys estate agayne, in her former beau-

eye, prosperity, dignity, and integrity in
 all respects: and aboue all the rest, hee
 can not without sighing and great an-
 guish of mynde, thinke on the execrable
 blasphemies which war bringeth forth
 against God, and the ouerflowing of vi-
 ces which growe thzough the licence and
 liberty of þ Armies. To shorten these mi-
 series, which the sayd L. the King of Na-
 uarre would willingly redēme with hys
 proper blode, he most humbly and with
 all due tifull affection, beseecheth hys Ma-
 jesty, not to thinke straunge of the offer
 which presently hee maketh to Mounsr
 de Guise, seeing the aduersaries haue
 taken him the sayd king of Nauarre, for
 party in theyr pretence, and the sayde
 Lorde of Guise commaundeth in theyr
 Armies, to wyte, that thys quarrell (as
 well wythout putting all the orders
 and estates of thys kyngdome to any fur-
 ther damage, molestation or trouble;
 as also wythout leuying or bringing in
 any domesticall or forrayne Army, touch-
 ing the same, which coulde not chouse but
 be the destruction of all poore people) may
 be decyded and determined, betwene the
 sayd king of Nauarre and the sayd Mon-
 sir de Guise, by way of Combat in their
 owne

shone proper persons, either one against
 one, two against two, ten to ten, or twen-
 ty to twenty, more or lesse, in such num-
 ber as h^e saide L. of Guyse will appoint,
 with such kind of Armour & weapons as
 are accustomed to bee v^sed amongst
 Knights of hono^r. And cōcerning h^e place,
 if he desire it within this kingdome, the
 said L. of Nauarre most humbly beseech-
 eth his M. to bouchfise him the hono^r to
 nominate the same. Or in case Mounfier
 de Guyse shall suspect this Realme, then
 the King of Nauarre offereth him, to bee
 readye in such other place out of this
 Realme, as he the said L. of Guyse shall
 choose, so it be a place of sure access, su-
 spected to neither party. An hono^r cer-
 tainely, considering the difference and in-
 equality of their persons and degrees (be-
 ing such as all men know) that the sayde
 L. of Guyse ought by all meanes to em-
 brace and purchase: a felicity also, which
 the said Lord the King of Nauarre, and
 my Lorde the P^rince hys Cōzin, wyl
 most willingly buy with they^r owne
 bloods, to redēme the King they^r soue-
 raigne Lord, from h^e vocation & paynes,
 which the aduersaries mosse disloyally
 put hym to, hys estate from trouble and
 confu-

confusion, his Nobility from destruction, and all his people from extreame misery and calamity. The layde Lord the King of Nauarre protesting befoze God, and in hys conscience, that he is not moued to choose thys way, through any ambition reigning in hym, nor by any hatred that he beareth to hys enemies, nor for any reuenge that he wysheth toward them, nor yet in regarde of that spightfull and malicious spoile and destruction, which they would tryumphe and reioyce to see executed vppon hym.

But contrariwyle, hys resolution to take the fortune of the Combat, proceedeth as well from y great zeale & seruēt desire which hee hath to see God truly serued and honoured, hys kyng free from vexation and trouble, hys estate in peace, and the people at rest and quietnesse, as also from the great displeasure, annoyauce and woe, (whych euery moment he setteth befoze his mynde) not onelie to see God blasphemed againe in thys estate, being in the waues and perills of thypwacke: but also to see thys poore people caste againe into the extreame tyte and myseryes past, whereinto (yf they fall once agayne.)

stant

skant can any man reléue and deliuer them from the same.

Finally the sayde Lorde the Kyng of Nauarre is most certainly perswaded, and reposeth all hys trust and confidence in the almighty, who seeth the secretes of all harts, and is chiefe president and beareth the whole sway in all exploytes and deedes of Armes, that he of his infinite mercy and goodnes, by the euent and successe, wyll manifestly declare, and shew to all the whole world, not onely the sincerety, but also the righteousnes of the cause, to the intent it may serue for an example to all posterityes and ages: whose wrath, vengeance, and curse, he wyll thet to fall vpon him, yf he protest falsly, or euer imagined harme, eyther toward the kynges person, or against hys estate or subiects, of what calling, degré or religion soeuer they be. If euer he contriued any deuyle or plotte to take effect vpon the kinges Tombe or death: Or euer compassed or cast in hys mynde, any violence, against either the Romish religion, or the Catholiques: reposing his whole and onely hope in God, to receiue from hys eternall Maiesty hys mercifull blessing, gracious goodwyll, and louing fauour,

faunour, against all them that wythout oc-
 casion seeke hys destruction, and under
 shaddowe of hys name, molest the king-
 dome, ouerthrowe all good order, destroy
 the people, and meane to stryp the kyng
 out of his royall estate and dignyty.

Gyuen at *Bergerac* the tenth day of
 Iune, in the yeere of our Lorde,
 a thousand, five hundred, foure-
 score and fyue.

Signed. Henry.

Lallier.

